

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP

15th November 2006

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROPOSALS

This paper invites the KCP Steering Group to:

- agree proposals for the use of Community Empowerment money, to recommend to the Council.

FOR DECISION

1. Background

1.1 The Community Empowerment sub group was given the task of developing proposals for the use of money that the Council has set aside for community empowerment activity. These proposals will be consistent with the Community Strategy and will deliver the LAA targets:

Performance Indicators	Performance Baseline	Performance Target
i) The percentage of residents who agree that the Council involves local people in the decisions it takes	3 year average (of 2004-2006 surveys) to be established	6 percentage points increase
ii) The percentage of residents who agree that the Police involve local people in the decisions they take	As above	6 percentage points increase
iii) The percentage of residents who agree that the local National Health Service involves residents of Kensington and Chelsea in the decisions it takes	As above	6 percentage points increase
iv) The percentage of residents who agree that the Council consults local people on the decisions it takes	As above	6 percentage points increase
v) The percentage of residents who agree that all residents are encouraged to take an active role in their communities	As above	6 percentage points increase

1.2 The Subgroup was also asked to consider a new measurement methodology to capture how effectively clients of voluntary organisations are empowered to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services.

1.3 The Steering Group have previously agreed:

- £19,870 to be allocated to fund the 'Community Engagement Skills' training course for a trial period in 2006/7. It will be reviewed to see if it should be considered for further funding.
- £3,000 to be allocated to the 'Support Small Businesses' seminars.
- £20,000 for three postal surveys to measure the baseline and assess progress against the additional indicator developed by the Subgroup:
 - The % of community/voluntary organisations and residents/tenants associations who agree that their service users and members can feed into and influence decision making by the Council, police and the local NHS.

The survey is only to be repeated should the first year yield useful results.

2. Current Position

2.1 At the last Steering Group meeting it was reported that the sub group were developing a proposal to support local organisations in order that they can better enable their users and members to influence local decision-making. The Subgroup delayed presenting it to the Steering Group as we felt further work was required to specify the impact of the planned activities and their relation to other strands of the work.

2.2 The proposal has been led by the Social Council who has revised it to include success criteria. The proposal also provides a breakdown of costs – which have increased since the Steering Group previously considered it. The proposal is attached.

3. Points for consideration by the Steering Group

3.1. In its current form the proposal has been circulated to members of the Subgroup¹ for comment but we have not been able to discuss it collectively. The following points may therefore not be representative of all members' views.

3.2 The Subgroup has spent considerable time and energy considering how the proposals it has been developing relate to the targets in the LAA. We have found it difficult to assure ourselves and the Steering Group on this

¹ Melanie Smith, Celia Rees-Jenkins, Dominic Clout, Gillian Bowen, Juliet Rawlin, Cllr Judith Blakeman, Michael Bach, Malcolm Spalding

point. For this reason the Steering Group has recommended funding for trial periods.

3.3 If the attached proposal were to be supported in its entirety for three years, insufficient funds would be available to carry on with the current activities – should these prove to be successful. The Subgroup could be asked to prioritise future years' activities on the basis of experience in the "pilots".

3.4 The Subgroup has found it difficult to develop proposals in partnership and has found itself in the position. It is suggested that the Subgroup reviews progress with the various projects with a focus on considering how these could be developed as partnership proposals.

4. Conclusion

4.1 In summary, the Steering Group are asked to consider the attached proposal and form a view on its funding.

For decision

Contact Officer:

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